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O P 281839Z MAY 09  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO RUEHAH/AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT IMMEDIATE 1144  
RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ASTANA IMMEDIATE 2555  
RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK IMMEDIATE 5292  
RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE IMMEDIATE 0677  
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT IMMEDIATE 0867  
INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0664  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 7972  
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 8505

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054767

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/21/2019

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SUBJECT: INFORMING THE CENTRAL ASIANS ON LETHAL TRANSIT  
NEGOTIATIONS WITH RUSSIA

Classified By: SCA DAS George Krol, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(U) 1. This is an Action Request. Posts are requested to convey the talking points in para. 2 to their host government at the appropriate level and to report any responses to Washington.

(C/Rel to Host Govt.) 2. Talking Points:

-- During their meeting on April 1 in London, President Medvedev offered President Obama the possibility of allowing transit of lethal materiel destined for military operations in Afghanistan across Russian territory, similar to the agreements Russia currently has with Germany, France and Spain.

-- While the U.S. is focused on implementing the existing NATO-Russia non-lethal arrangement and the bilateral non-lethal transit agreements with Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, we believe it would be worthwhile to explore this offer with our Russian counterparts.

-- As such, we sent a delegation to Moscow May 26-28 to discuss a range of security issues, including transit arrangements.

-- As we develop a response to the Russian offer, we will continue to consult closely with your government.

-- Our discussions with Russia are purely about transit through Russia, and in no way presume a change in our existing arrangements in Central Asia.

CLINTON